

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently amended): ~~An automated~~A computer implemented method of providing a user with ~~a gem stone~~an assessment of subjective beauty and desirability of a gem stone, the method including the steps of:  
a computer receiving a plurality of objective parameter values from the user relating to the measured physical proportions of the gem stone;  
the computer determining values for a plurality of aesthetic parameter values derived from attributes of the gem stone contributing to visual appeal, each of said attribute values being derived from a combination of three or more of the received objective parameter values;the derivation being based upon predetermined consumer preferences;  
~~computing~~the computer establishing a rating value of the gem stone based upon said aesthetic parameter values;and values of attributes contributing to visual appeal; and  
the computer providing a gem stone an assessment of the subjective beauty and desirability of the gem stone to the user based upon said computed rating value and/or said aesthetic parameter valuesvalues of attributes contributing to visual appeal.
2. (Currently amended): Method of claim 1 wherein ~~one or more~~the objective parameter values ~~are selected from the following:~~at least include a depth percentage;table percentage;crown angle;~~crown~~or percentage;pavilion angle;~~pavilion~~or percentage;culet percentage; and girdle thickness.
3. (Currently amended): Method of claim 1 wherein the ~~aesthetic parameters~~attributes contributing to visual appeal include one or more of brilliance, fire, scintillation and diameter spread.
4. (Currently amended): Method of claim 1 wherein the step of ~~computing~~establishing a rating value includes applying an adjustment to one or more of the ~~aesthetic parameters~~values

of attributes contributing to visual appeal and/or the rating value in accordance with one or more of the following ~~gem stone parameters~~:

- (i) vertical spread;
- (ii) table size;
- (iii) girdle thickness;
- (iv) culet size;
- (v) half facets;
- (vi) symmetry;
- (vii) polish.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently amended): Method of claim 1 wherein the gem stone assessment includes a description of the visual appearance of the gem stone based upon the determined ~~aesthetic parameters~~ values of attributes contributing to visual appeal and/or the ~~computed~~ established rating value.

7. (Previously presented): Method according to claim 1 wherein the gem stone is a diamond.

8. (Currently amended): Computer program product including a computer usable medium having computer readable program code embodied on said medium for providing a user with a ~~gem stone~~ an assessment of subjective beauty and desirability of a gem stone, said computer program product further including computer readable code within said computer usable medium for:

receiving a plurality of objective parameter values from the user relating to ~~the~~ measured physical proportions of the gem stone;

determining values for a plurality of aesthetic parameter values derived from attributes of the gem stone contributing to visual appeal, each of said attribute values being derived from a combination of three or more of the received objective parameter values; the derivation being based upon predetermined consumer preferences;

~~computing~~establishing a rating value of the gem stone based upon said ~~aesthetic~~  
~~parameter~~values of attributes contributing to visual appeal; and

providing ~~a gem stone~~an assessment of the subjective beauty and desirability of the  
gem stone to the user based upon said ~~computed~~rating value and/or said ~~aesthetic parameter~~  
~~values~~values of attributes contributing to visual appeal.

9. (Currently amended): Computer program product of claim 8 wherein ~~one or more~~the  
objective parameter values ~~are selected from the following:~~at least include a depth  
percentage; table percentage; crown angle; ~~crown or~~ percentage; pavilion angle; ~~pavilion~~  
~~or~~ percentage; culet percentage; and girdle thickness.

10. (Currently amended): Computer program product of claim 8 wherein the ~~aesthetic~~  
~~parameters~~attributes contributing to visual appeal include one or more of brilliance, fire,  
scintillation and diameter spread.

11. (Currently amended): Computer program product of claim 8 including computer  
readable code within said computer usable medium for applying an adjustment to one or  
more of the ~~aesthetic parameters~~values of attributes contributing to visual appeal and/or the  
rating value in accordance with one or more of the following ~~gem stone parameters~~:

- (i) vertical spread;
- (ii) table size;
- (iii) girdle thickness;
- (iv) culet size;
- (v) half facets;
- (vi) symmetry;
- (vii) polish.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently amended): Computer program product of claim 8 including computer  
readable code within said computer usable medium for providing the user with a description

of the visual appearance of the gem stone based upon the determined ~~aesthetic~~  
~~parameters~~values of the attributes contributing to visual appeal and/or the  
~~computed~~established rating value.

14. (Previously presented): Computer program product according to claim 8 wherein the gem stone is a diamond.

15 - 20 (Cancelled):

21. (Currently amended): Method of claim 1 wherein the step of determining includes retrieving said ~~aesthetic parameter~~values of attributes contributing to visual appeal from one or more lookup tables indexed by ~~at least two of said~~ combination of three or more objective parameter values.

22. (Previously presented): Method of claim 21 wherein entries in the lookup tables are predetermined values computed using a computer software program for performing virtual diamond analysis.

23. (Previously presented): Method of claim 21 wherein entries in the lookup tables are predetermined values obtained by analyzing actual diamonds.

24. (Currently amended): Method of claim 1 wherein the step of determining includes computing said ~~aesthetic parameter~~values of attributes contributing to visual appeal from a virtual model of a diamond corresponding with the received objective parameter values using a computer software program for performing virtual diamond analysis.

25. (Currently amended): Method of claim 1 wherein the rating value is ~~computed~~established by summing the ~~aesthetic parameter~~values of attributes contributing to visual appeal.

26. (Currently amended): Method of claim 1 wherein the gem stone assessment includes a numerical value corresponding with the ~~computed~~-rating value.
27. (Previously presented): Method of claim 1 wherein said objective parameter values are received electronically over a telecommunications network link.
28. (Previously presented): Method of claim 27 wherein the telecommunications network is the internet.
29. (Currently amended): Computer program product of claim 8 including one or more lookup tables of ~~aesthetic parameter-values~~ of attributes contributing to visual appeal embodied on said computer usable medium, and wherein the computer program product further includes computer readable code within said computer usable medium for, in the step of determining, indexing said lookup tables using ~~at least two of said~~ combination of three or more objective parameter values to retrieve the derived ~~aesthetic parameter-values~~ of attributes contributing to visual appeal.
30. (Previously presented): Computer program product of claim 29 wherein entries in the lookup tables are predetermined values computed using a computer software program for performing virtual diamond analysis.
31. (Previously presented): Computer program product of claim 29 wherein entries in the lookup tables are predetermined values obtained by analyzing actual diamonds.
32. (Currently amended): Computer program product of claim 8 including computer readable code within said computer usable medium for, in the step of determining, performing a virtual diamond analysis to compute said ~~aesthetic parameter-values~~ of attributes contributing to visual appeal from a virtual model of a diamond corresponding with the received objective parameter values.

33. (Currently amended): Computer program product of claim 8 including computer readable code within said computer usable medium for ~~computing~~establishing said rating value by summing the ~~aesthetic parameter values~~ of attributes contributing to visual appeal.

34. (Currently amended): A system for providing a user with a ~~gem stone~~an assessment of subjective beauty and desirability of a gem stone, the system including:

input means for receiving a plurality of objective parameter values from the user relating to ~~the~~ measured physical proportions of the gem stone;

means for determining values for a plurality of ~~aesthetic parameter values derived from attributes~~ of the gem stone contributing to visual appeal, each of said attribute values being derived from a combination of three or more of the received objective parameter values; the derivation being based upon predetermined consumer preferences;

means for ~~computing~~establishing a rating value of the gem stone based upon said ~~aesthetic parameter values; and~~ values of attributes contributing to visual appeal; and

output means for providing a ~~gem stone~~an assessment of the subjective beauty and desirability of the gem stone to the user based upon said computed rating value and/or said ~~aesthetic parameter values~~ values of attributes contributing to visual appeal.

35. (Previously presented): System of claim 34 wherein the input means comprises a computer input device for the user to enter said plurality of objective parameter values, and the output means comprises a computer display device for displaying the gem stone assessment to the user.

36. (Previously presented): System of claim 34 wherein the input means and output means include means for receiving the objective parameter values from the user and for transmitting the gem stone assessment to the user over the internet.

37. (Previously presented): System of claim 34 wherein the input means includes an interface with a diamond proportion measuring device for receiving proportional parameters of a diamond measured by said measuring device.

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38. (New): Method of claim 1 wherein establishing the rating value includes applying a corresponding numerical weighting to each of said values of attributes contributing to visual appeal, and summing the weighted attribute values.